

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, April 1, 1993

Published Since 1877

Does confrontational evangelism work?

Some flaws in our approach to growth

By Kenneth S. Hemphill

Second in a series

Recently a prominent church growth author stated that growing churches are neo-evangelistic. They label as unsuccessful evangelistic methods such as telemarketing and door to door contacts. Is door to door visitation a relic of a past generation?

The suggestion that door to door visitation and personal evangelism does not work is based on a misunderstanding of confrontational evangelism, poor statistical research, and a lack of theological understanding of authentic church growth.



SOUTHERN BAPTIST CENTER FOR CHURCH GROWTH

Ken Hemphill, director



Mississippians' unique music mission

Southern Baptist missionary John McNair (right) teaches Uruguayan Baptists choral conducting techniques at his home in Montevideo, Uruguay. The Uruguayans (from left) are Jose Luis Trias, Alvaro Singis, and Fernando Cesaroti. They are students in a program McNair and his wife, Kathy, developed to

train choir directors for Uruguayan Baptist churches. The McNairs, national music promoters for the Evangelical Baptist Convention of Uruguay, are from Magee and Picayune, Miss., respectively. They are currently on medical leave in Carriere. (FMB photo by Wally Poor)

growth.

The word confrontational has pejorative overtones for many. Personal soul-winning does not require heavy-handed, pressurized tactics. When the motivation is heart-felt concern for the lost condition of a friend or acquaintance, the Holy Spirit can use that witness to bring conversion.

Some areas of the country and some neighborhoods are more responsive to door-to-door contacts than others, but research does not suggest that door-to-door visitation no longer works. Recently I attended a conference with the pastors of some of the largest and fastest growing churches in the Southern Baptist Convention. Over 82% of these churches had organized evangelistic visitation programs. I have found churches of all sizes, in all regions of our country, using evangelistic visitation as a successful growth tool. Kirk Hadaway discovered that 76% of growing churches had weekly visitation programs (*Church Growth Principles*, p. 22). While some churches may be able to grow without organized visitation programs, they will be the exception and not the rule.

I believe the most important issue in church growth methods is the command of the Lord. Jesus taught his disciples to take the gospel to the people. The Great Commission demands that we go into all the world. The Lord command-

ed his followers to go into the highways and byways and compel them to come in that his house may be filled. God always honors obedience to his revealed principles. The church that is going to reach its community and the world must be willing to go.

Every church needs an intentional plan for evangelism. People left on their own will rarely visit. A simple plan would include a prospect file, a method for training persons on how to witness, a regular night for visitation, and a strategy for follow-up and assimilation. There are a number of excellent tools for training laity to witness such as Continuous Witness Training, Evangelism Explosion, and Lay Witness Training. Some churches simply train their people to share the gospel from a tract. Find the tool that best suits your church, motivate and mobilize the laity, and go into the fields that are ripe unto harvest. The larger church may discover the need for various strategies and multiple opportunities for training and visitation. Most churches have discovered that a call prior to a visit produces better results.

Obey the command to go, and see if God is not faithful to his promise to give the results.

Hemphill is director, Southern Baptist Center for Church Growth, a cooperative venture of the Home Mission Board and the Sunday School Board.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

Young people and alcohol:

- ◆ The average American child will see 75,000 alcohol-drinking scenes on television by the age of 18. Children in one TV study named alcohol over water as an appropriate beverage.
- ◆ Only half of fourth-graders in a 1987 study knew that beer, wine, and liquor are drugs, while 87% knew that marijuana is a drug. Another study indicated that 80% of students surveyed did not know that one can of beer has as much alcohol as a "shot" of whiskey.
- ◆ Age at first drink has dropped significantly over past decades, standing today at around age 12.
- ◆ Alcohol use is associated with the early onset of sexual activity and with risky sexual behavior.
- ◆ Over 4.5 million teenagers in 1985 experienced negative consequences of alcohol use, such as arrest, accident, impaired health, or poor job performance.
- ◆ A 16-year old American teenager is more likely to die from a drinking-related problem than any other cause.
- ◆ Lax enforcement of drinking age laws permits two-thirds of high

school students who drink to simply walk into a store and purchase alcohol.

- ◆ Nearly all high school seniors (92%) have used alcohol, while 35% say they have had five or more drinks in a row in the past two weeks. Moreover, one-third believe there is no great risk in having four or five drinks almost daily.
- ◆ Even though legally underage, junior and senior high school students each year consume over 1 billion cans of beer (102 million gallons) and 35% of all wine coolers (31 million gallons).
- ◆ Teenage girls who suffer from bulimia nervosa (binge-and-purge eating disorder) have a significantly higher incidence of alcohol problems.
- ◆ Alcohol has been linked by government studies to the timing and seriousness of youth suicide attempts.
- ◆ College students spend more money on beer than textbooks, even though most of them are below legal drinking age. Studies have shown that grades sink as alcohol consumption rises.
- ◆ More than 50% of college students who confessed to violent campus crimes said they were under the influence of alcohol or another drug at the time. Also, nearly half the victims admitted they were drinking or using other drugs when the crime occurred.

- ◆ Alcohol use has been implicated in two-thirds of sexual assaults and "date rapes" among teens and college students.
- ◆ Drivers under 21 have the highest rate of fatal car crashes involving alcohol (one death every three hours).
- ◆ Even though drivers 16-24 years old comprise only 17% of all licensed drivers, they are involved in 36% of all fatal car crashes involving alcohol.
- ◆ The greatest number of fatal car crashes for 16- to 19-year olds occurred at much lower blood alcohol levels than older age groups [suggesting that lower levels of alcohol have a more powerful effect on younger drivers].
- ◆ Children of alcoholics have four times greater risk of developing the disease than other children.
- ◆ For information on how to get involved in fighting alcohol abuse in Mississippi, contact the Christian Action Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800.
- ◆ For information on the program of the National Council of Alcoholism and Drug Dependence in your area, call toll-free 1-800-475-HOPE.

—Source: National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

Guy Henderson

The Mid-Stream

The Southern Baptist Convention is made up of 38,000 churches in 36 state conventions. Theoretically we all have a voice in the SBC and we all have a responsibility in what it is or what it is becoming. This voice is weakened where there is a power-grab from either side. Right now a pastor or lay person who is not a fundamental/conservative has little chance of being elected or appointed to various boards or committees. When he is chosen he is expected to foster the continuation of this system. SBC President Ed Young commented on this in a recent meeting at Southwestern Seminary's trustee meeting. He declared that SBC boards should represent the denomination while avoiding extremes in both the left and right wings.

More and more power is being garnered by the SBC top leadership. Backed by an Executive Committee which marches in unison, the SBC leadership is riding a crest of power. Since 1978 this group has made some good decisions and some that are not too

commendable. Boards, agencies, and institutions have become a study in turmoil as the "denominational cleansing" continues. The Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board, several seminaries and other agencies had their trustee board packed by stalwarts dedicated to this position. Once the pendulum is set in motion it is difficult to stop it.

Surely they will not bother the WMU was the rumor, but power can do strange things in a person's heart. Accusations, lamentations, and ultimatums came in a cloud of authority and one of the world's finest mission promotion organizations suddenly has to be "hard-wired" into the SBC's controlling power. It's not unlike the attitude expressed in a tasteless hillbilly song, "Mama, you've worked hard all your life for us children, now get out and do something for yourself."

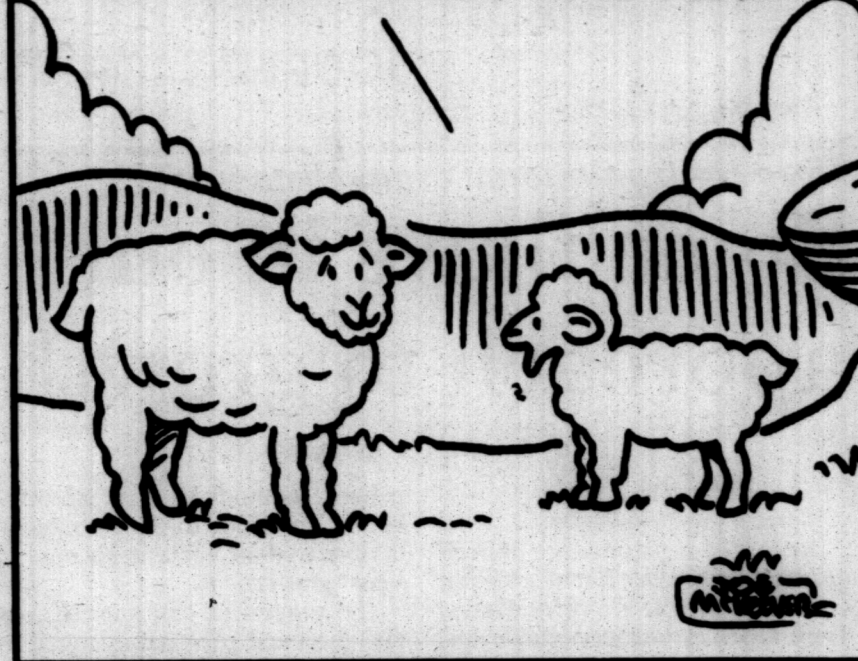
With this propensity for control exhibited by the SBC, the WMU will either get in step or be on the outside looking in. After this what is left? State conventions may be a bit more difficult but even now

plans are being made, and there's nothing beyond the state conventions except the local church. Strangely enough they have used conservatism as their weapon and when they get to the local churches they will find them to be as conservative as ever.

The mid-stream Southern Baptists have a decision to make. They can join the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) which is trying hard to succeed but hardly qualifies in theology or methodology for mid-streamers. It is little cause for rejoicing to note CBF's continuing growth. This polarization is creating slippery ground upon which mid-stream Baptists can stand. About all that is left is a "grin and bear it" attitude, hoping the ship of Zion will right itself after a season. Extremism is hardly enhancing the work of Southern Baptists.

Meanwhile the mid-streamers must continue to support our missionaries and other programs. The Cooperative Program, Lottie Moon, and Annie Armstrong offerings are needed more than ever.

"BUT MAMA — ALL THE OTHER LAMBS SAY THE WOLF IS NICE AND WE SHOULDN'T BE TAKEN IN BY THE MEDIA."



How far is it from Jericho to Jerusalem?

Judging from the proliferation of books on physical fitness, we would rather read about it than do it. They speak of an "ageless attitude" and going from "feeling your age to feeling fabulous." Then they hit you with a question: How old would you be if you didn't know how old you are?

The motivation for exercise in ancient days had to do with your fields and gardens. Now it has been given a religious slant. Physical fitness today is said to be biblical.

Dick Coury, Baylor's professor of health and a well-known nutritionist, proclaims Christians should be more like Jesus and hit the street in their walking shoes. He did not drive everywhere he went. He walked. Once he walked over 50 miles from sunup to sundown. He

was in shape and physically fit.

Facts and Trends of the Sunday School Board points out some nutrition facts:

— almost 40% of all Americans are overweight.

— the U.S. leads the world in the number of cases of hypertension, cancer, and heart attacks.

— 30-60% of all cancers may be attributed to improper nutrition.

— 62% of ministers who died last year died as a result of heart attacks.

— 80% of Americans suffer from lower back pain, which is a result of inadequate exercise.

Sure, we believe all this, but we also believe in driving around the block several times to get a closer parking place near the athletic store to buy our walking shoes.

— GH

illness, you can hear the mysterious accent of the Master, Kathy's and yours and mine, who is calling still.

Are you the one who, through Kathy, the Lord is calling?

— This editorial, by Clingenpeel, editor of Virginia's Religious Herald, was written shortly before Lloyd's death March 24 at her home in Henderson, Ky. She was 37 years old, and is survived by her husband and two daughters, Heather, 14, and Kristin, 6.

Skip serves as minister of education and administration at First Church, Henderson.

Missionary Kathy Lloyd: "If I can't go, will you go for me?"

By Michael Clingenpeel

In an emotional moment that long will be remembered by everyone attending Tuesday evening's session of the annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia, former missionary Kathy Lloyd, appealed for someone to answer God's call to missions.

Lloyd, is battling cancer. Courageously. With humor and dignity.

Little more than two years ago Kathy, her husband, Skip, and their two school-age children, were living and serving as Southern Baptist missionaries in South Korea. Skip was a religious education consultant; Kathy worked in a home for unwed mothers. Korea was their arena for kingdom ministry — their happy, fulfilling niche.

Then came cancer.

"I knew that God was going to change my life that day," she recalled thinking as she drove to the hospital to get test results on March 17, 1991. "Deep down in my heart I knew the results."

Almost as devastating as the news of the cancer was the word that they needed to return to the

United States for her treatment. In two weeks they packed and returned to Illinois, their native state.

She chose to accept aggressive medical treatment. A sometimes hellish journey of peaks and valleys followed; double mastectomy, chemotherapy, metastasis of the cancer to Kathy's bone, a bone marrow transplant. Now, according to Skip, Kathy has tumors on her liver and spine.

The plan for Kathy and Skip to address the WMU of Virginia was set months ago. Kathy, though weak and confined to a wheelchair, was determined to make it.

She is a missionary with a message. Like manna from heaven, when harvested daily, is enough, God supplied her with sufficient strength to deliver it.

Her presence in Virginia was a major part of her message. By

traveling to Virginia Beach Kathy was saying, "I am still a missionary."

Missions, after all, is never a matter of geography. It is a matter of commitment. Missions doesn't require a passport or travel agent. It demands a responsive, pliable heart. Cancer changed Kathy's place of service, but it has not ended her calling. "We will always be missionaries," Kathy said.

But the more urgent message Kathy left last week is to a world grown tone-deaf to God's voice, a world which prefers to heed society's louder claims. It is a plea to hear and answer God's call to missionary service.

Lamenting the complacency of most Baptists to use their gifts in what God is doing in His world, Kathy appealed for more complete stewardship of the gospel treasure. "Where is God working in the Virginia state WMU? What is he doing here? Join him."

Voice almost at a whisper, from the depths of her heart and God's too, Kathy uttered her plea: "I can't go, but will you go for me?"



Lloyd

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Trustees approve Al Mohler as Southern's new president

By Art Toalston

ATLANTA (BP) — R. Albert Mohler Jr., a 33-year-old conservative theologian and Baptist editor, was approved by trustees of Southern Seminary March 26 as the next president of one of the key institutions in Southern Baptist life.

Mohler, editor of Georgia Baptists' Christian Index newsjournal since 1989, received a 46-5 vote from seminary trustees during a special March 25-26 closed meeting in Atlanta.

As successor to Roy L. Honeycutt, Mohler will become the seminary's ninth president since its 1859 founding — and the fourth to assume its leadership while in his 30s.

Honeycutt, 66, Southern's president since 1982, has now set July

31 for his retirement, with Mohler to assume office Aug. 1, the start of the seminary's new academic and financial year. Trustee chairman Wayne Allen declined to state the terms of Mohler's salary package.

Southern has 3,000 students; a full-time faculty of 74; and a full-time staff of 250.

Mohler, in a brief news conference after the vote, said, "The denomination is looking to Southern Seminary as a model institution for the future of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"We will move in a direction that is fully in keeping with the heritage and the stated commitments of the institution to the present," Mohler said, describing it as a direction "I

am firmly convinced will be supported by the vast majority of Southern Baptists and their churches."

The academic excellence that has characterized the seminary since its founding "will be extended, expanded, and enhanced in the coming years," Mohler pledged.

Allen, a pastor from suburban Memphis, Tenn., who also chaired the search committee that nominated Mohler, described the trustees' approval of Mohler as "an overwhelming vote."

Mohler and his wife, Mary, have a daughter, Mary Katherine, 3, and a son, Christopher Albert, nearly 1.

Toalston writes for Baptist Press.

Graham's "Cathedral in the Sky" touches 400 European locations

By Dan Wooding

ESSEN, Germany (March 22) — Europe is famous for its cathedrals, but none could compare to Billy Graham's great "Cathedral in the Sky," which hovered some 22,000 miles above the earth, transmitting the gospel message all over Europe.

In Sofia, Bulgaria, just a few seconds before the start of the transmission from Essen, something went wrong with the audio connection and it became necessary to switch to another satellite system, belonging to the Palace of Culture where the meetings were taking place. This system services also cafes, bars, and restaurants in the area. Usually, the patrons of these establishments would be watching sporting events on the satellite, but they were treated instead to 90 minutes of Graham's mission.

At the age of 74, Graham completed his historic ProChrist '93 mission to all of Europe from Essen, Germany, March 17-21, at a time when European and former Communist countries have undergone vast changes and many long-established walls on the continent have collapsed and governments with them.

This most far-reaching crusade of Graham's ministry was transmitted by satellite to more than 1,400 centers across Europe, including nearly 400 locations throughout Germany, Austria, and German-speaking Switzerland.

Bild Zeitung, Germany's largest-circulation newspaper, opined, "Jesus preached from a

boat so that more people could hear him — Billy Graham uses state-of-the-art technology in his missions.... But for this preacher from the U.S. the Word is more than just watt power, and he values personal contact more than a light show."

Nearly one million people attended the German-speaking venues with an additional 7.2 million attending at the Mission World locations across Europe. Of these, more than 250,000 responded to Graham's invitation to make a commitment to Christ.

This was Graham's first crusade in Germany since the former East and West Germany were reunited by the 1989 fall of the Berlin Wall. ProChrist '93 became the most widely-supported Christian mission by the German people this century, backed by more than 1,200 churches across the country.

"Many are watching tonight in the former Yugoslavia," Graham said from the platform. "This program is also being carried in Bosnia, Serbia, and many other places where people are concerned about what is happening. God is speaking to all of them — may this meeting bring a sense of reconciliation and peace to that troubled area."

Attendance at the locations across Europe averaged nearly 2,000 per venue. Each night, the meetings in Essen were extended across 16 time zones in such diverse locations as prisons, shopping centers, town halls.

To enable everyone present in the satellite venues to clearly understand the gospel, a team of 44 interpreters simultaneously interpreted Graham's sermon into their own languages.

Soon after the first transmission reports on the results began to pour in from across Europe:

In the city of Arad in Transylvania, Romania, attendance records were broken each night when some 10,000 people crammed into a hall with a capacity for only 5,000.

On the opening night of the satellite transmission to Russia and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union, reports were said to be "tremendously encouraging." In Moscow, more than 4,500 jammed a sports complex and 25% responded to the invitation. In Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan, 4,000 attended and 300 came forward.

In Baku, Azerbaijan, a 700-seat hall was filled to overflowing, with a local leader responding: "It is needed in these tense, war-torn times." In the once-closed Russian port of Vladivostok, some 1,800 attended the meeting.

The four Mission World outreaches have extended Graham's message to nearly 70 million people by satellite and video, making a total of 180 million people to whom he has preached the gospel in over 50 years of ministry.

Wooding is a British journalist now living in Southern California; he is founder and director of ASSIST (Aid to Special Saints in Strategic Times).

Southern Baptist Convention

June 15-17, 1993

George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston

Theme: "... For Such a Time as This." — Esther 4:14

Tuesday morning

- 8:30 Call to Order, Congregational Singing — Ragan Vandegriff III, Orlando, Fla.
Prayer — Joe Chambers, Lochwood, Colo.
- 8:35 Registration Report and Constitution of Convention — Lee Porter, registration secretary
- 8:40 Committee on Order of Business (First) — Fred Powell, chairman, Moore, Okla.
- 8:45 Welcome — Bob Lanier, mayor, Houston; Mary Lou Retton-Kelly and Shannon Kelly, Houston
- 8:50 Response — Doug Hodo, president, Houston Baptist University
- 9:00 Crossover Houston — Jay Strack, SBC first vice president, Dallas
- 9:05 Denominational Press Report — Herb Hollinger, SBC Executive Committee
- 9:15 Theme Devotion — "For Such a Time as This" We Need: The Church's Holy Priesthood, Charles B. Fuller, Roanoke, Va.
- 9:30 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 9:50 Executive Committee Report (Part 1) — Morris H. Chapman, president
- 10:45 Congregational Singing — Gary Moore, Houston
- 10:50 Music — Caedmon's Call, Danielle Glen, Cari Harris, Cliff Young, Houston
- 11:00 Introduction of President — Ed Young, Irving, Texas
- 11:05 President's Address — Edwin Young, SBC president, Houston
- 11:45 Benediction — Ben B. Young, Houston

Tuesday afternoon

- 1:45 Congregational Singing — Ragan Vandegriff; Prayer, R.L. Lentz, Clemson, S.C.
- 1:50 Southern Baptist Foundation Report — Hollis E. Johnson III, president, Nashville
- 2:00 Business — Committee on Order of Business (second) — Fred Powell
- 2:10 Theme Devotion — "For Such a Time as This" We Need: The Church's Spirit of Cooperation, Adrian Rogers, Cordova, Tenn.
- 2:25 Congregational Singing — Lee Roy and Hannah Till, Dallas; Ragan Vandegriff
- 2:30 Election of Officers (First)
- 2:45 Committee on Nominations Report — Joseph W. Atchison, Rogers, Ark.
- 3:00 Executive Committee Report (Part 2) — Morris H. Chapman
- 3:45 Introduction of Fraternal Representatives
- 3:50 Messenger Information Survey — Mike Arrington, vice president, Sunday School Board
- 3:55 Music — Wingspread Trio, Rodney and Myrna Salmon; Shery Boyles, Moore, Okla.
- 4:05 Business — Committee on Order of Business (Third) — Fred Powell
- 4:10 Committee on Committees Report
- 4:25 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 4:45 Election of Officers (Second)
- 5:00 Benediction — Robert Sorrell, Cordova, Tenn.

Tuesday evening

- 6:40 Congregational Singing — Matt Marsh, Houston
Prayer — Danny Sotelo, El Encino Community, Fresno, Calif.
- 6:45 Brotherhood Commission Report — James D. Williams, president, Memphis
- 6:55 Congregational Singing — William Love, Houston
- 7:00 Election of Officers (Third)
- 7:10 Seminaries — Challenge to Biblical Preparation
- 7:40 Seminary Invitation — Paige Patterson, Wake Forest, N.C.
- 7:45 Congregational Singing — Jack Price, Garland, Texas
- 7:50 Sunday School Board Report — James T. Draper Jr., president, Nashville
- 8:00 Sunday School/Discipleship Presentation — "For Such a Time as This" We Need: The Church's Faithfulness to the Word of God
- 8:50 Discipleship Commitment Invitation
- 9:00 Benediction — Rick Ray, Moore, Okla.

Wednesday morning

- 8:30 Congregational Singing — Todd Bell, Dallas
- 8:35 Woman's Missionary Union Report — Dellanna W. O'Brien, executive director, Birmingham
- 8:45 Education Commission Report — Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director, Nashville
- 8:55 Doctrinal Devotion — "For Such a Time as This" We Need: The Church's Freedom, Richard D. Land, executive director, Christian Life Commission, Nashville
- 9:10 Congregational Singing — Tom Mosely, Houston
- 9:15 Bold Mission Thrust Report — Morris H. Chapman
- 9:25 Election of Officers (Fourth)
- 9:30 Introduction of Past Presidents
- 9:40 Seminary Reports — Seminary presidents
- 9:50 Seminary Presentation
- 10:15 Congregational Singing — Fred McNabb, Dallas
- 10:20 Committee on Order of Business (Fourth Report) — Fred Powell
- 10:25 Report and Recommendation on Freemasonry — Larry Lewis, Home Mission Board, Atlanta
- 10:45 Miscellaneous Business
- 11:05 Committee on Resolutions (First Report)
- 11:20 Election of Officers (Fifth)
- 11:25 Music — Prestonwood Choir
- 11:30 Convention Sermon — Jack N. Graham, Dallas
- 12:00 Benediction — Charles Germany, layman, Atlanta

No Wednesday afternoon session

Wednesday evening

- 6:35 Congregational Singing — Gary Moore
- 6:40 Business — Committee on Order of Business (Fifth) — Steve Cookingham, Wichita Falls, Texas; Election of Convention Sermon Preacher, Alternate, and Music Director 1994; Denominational Calendar Report — V.M. Piland, Tulsa, Okla.
- 6:45 Introduction of Newly Elected SBC Officers
- 6:50 Congregational Singing — Ragan Vandegriff
- 6:55 Home Mission Board Report — Larry Lewis
- 7:05 Foreign Mission Board Report — President
- 7:15 Congregational Singing — Gerald Ray, Houston
- 7:20 World Missions — "For Such a Time as This" We Need: The Church's Missionary Zeal
- 8:50 Missions Commitment Invitation
- 9:00 Benediction — Charles Tope, retired foreign missionary, Oklahoma City

Thursday morning

- 8:35 Congregational Singing — Mike Burt, Houston
- 8:40 American Bible Society Report — Fred A. Allen, church relations director, New York
- 8:50 Commission on the American Baptist Seminary Report — Arthur L. Walker Jr., sec.-treasurer
- Baptist World Alliance Report — Denton Lotz, McLean, Va.
- 9:10 Stewardship Commission Report — A.R. Fagan, president, Nashville
- 9:20 Introduction of Local Arrangements Committee — Herb Hollinger
- 9:25 Historical Commission Report — Lynn E. May Jr., executive director, Nashville
- 9:35 Southern Baptist Convention Canada Planning Group Report — Larry L. Lewis
- 9:45 Theme Devotion — "For Such a Time as This" We Need: The Church's Moral Witness, Frank D. Pollard, Jackson, Miss.
- 10:00 Christian Life Commission Report — Richard D. Land
- 10:10 Amunity Board Report — Paul W. Powell, president, Dallas
- 10:20 Radio & Television Commission Report — Jack B. Johnson, president, Fort Worth
- 10:30 Presentation of Outgoing SBC Officers — Morris H. Chapman
- 10:35 Miscellaneous Business
- 10:55 Committee on Resolutions (Final Report)
- 11:15 Music — Renee McLaurin, Houston
- 11:25 Message — Chuck Swindoll, Fullerton, Calif.
- 12:00 Benediction — Jim Hendrick, Mobile, Ala.

SBC Official Hotel List and Rates

Hotel Code	Hotel	S/D
Downtown Area		
ALPI	Allen Park Inn	\$69/69
DID	Days Inn Downtown	55/75
DBH	Doubletree at Allen Center	92/102
FSDT	Four Seasons Hotel Houston	123/123
HR	Hyatt Regency Houston (SBC headquarters)	99/99
LAN	The Lancaster	120/125
Medical Center Area		
HSH	Harvey Suites Houston Medical Center	\$75/80
HIMC	Holiday Inn Medical Center	65/70
HPH	Houston Hilton Plaza	95/95
MHMC	Marriott Medical Center	105/115
PARK	Park Inn International	50/55
WARH	The Wyndham Warwick	78/78
Astrodome Area		
CM	Chief Motel	\$45/45
GM	Grant Motel	33/36
HIAD	Holiday Inn Astrodome	72/72
MMH	Marriott Astrodome	75/85
MOT6A	Motel 6 South Loop West	27.95/33.95
RSH	Radisson Suite Hotel	60/60
RI	Residence Inn by Marriott	90/115
ROA	Roadrunner Astrodome	25/25
SHEA	Sheraton Astrodome Hotel	75/75
WHMH	White House Motor Hotel	45/45
Greenway Plaza Area		
HIGP	Holiday Inn Greenway Plaza	\$55/60
RIGP	Ramada Inn Greenway Plaza	54/59
SGP	Stouffer Presidente Hotel	80/80
TRGP	Travelodge Hotel Greenway Plaza	66/72
Galleria Area		
DBPO	Doubletree at Post Oak	\$105/115
GQII	Guest Quarters Suite Hotel	99/99
HICP	Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza	87/87
HIWL	Holiday Inn West Loop	60/65
HOUS	Houstonian Hotel	80/90
JWM	J.W. Marriott Houston Galleria	108/108
MHG	Marriott West Loop Galleria	97/97
OMNI	Omni Hotel	115/115
RC	Ritz Carlton Houston	110/125
SGH	Sheraton Grand Hotel	80/80
WGH	Westin Galleria (WMU Headquarters)	97/97
WO	Westin Oaks	97/97
North Loop Area		
HM	Houston Medallion	\$79/79

Entertainment needed for church block parties

HOUSTON — Houston area churches need Mississippi congregations to "send in the clowns" as they prepare for outreach block parties.

At least 25 churches will host block parties Saturday, June 12, the weekend before the Southern Baptist Convention meets in Houston, said Bill Cox, Home Mission

Board volunteer coordinating the events.

"We need puppet groups or clowns to come entertain the children and adults," Cox said.

Performing groups willing to entertain during the block parties should contact Cox by April 30 at 104 Blue Hills Court, Nashville, Tenn., 37214 or (615) 883-7024.

Baylor regents move toward Truett Seminary

WACO, Texas (BP) — The Baylor University board of regents voted March 23 to move forward with plans to activate the George W. Truett Theological Seminary, perhaps as early as the fall of 1994.

The decision is contingent upon a further positive review of proposed funding and facilities at the May 21 regularly scheduled board meeting, according to Baylor President Herbert H. Reynolds.

The vote allows preparations to begin for the opening of the seminary. Enrollment will be limited to 50 students each year with a maximum enrollment of 150 after three years, Reynolds said.

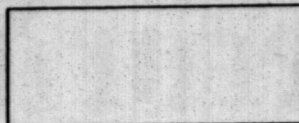
The Baylor regents named Robert B. Sloan, the George W. Truett professor of evangelism at Baylor, as dean of the seminary. His responsibilities associated with

the Truett Seminary will begin immediately but will not be full-time until after the May board meeting.

Incorporated on March 25, 1991, the seminary was named in honor of Truett because of his commitment both to Baylor University and to historic Baptist principles. Truett was pastor of First Church of Dallas following his graduation from Baylor in 1897 until his death in 1944.

The seminary has a 15-member board of trustees chaired by Daniel Vestal, pastor of Tallowood Church in Houston. The seminary trustees recommended to the university board of regents in January 1992 that intensive study be undertaken to determine the need for and value of activating the seminary.

FOR HOUSING BUREAU USE ONLY



SBC HOUSING REQUEST FORM

• PLEASE READ CAREFULLY •

MAIL TO:

SBC HOUSING BUREAU
Houston Convention and
Visitors Bureau
3300 Main Street
Houston, TX 77002-9396

RESERVATION CUTOFF DATE:
MAY 7, 1993

- PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE ALL ITEMS TO ASSURE ACCURACY.
- COMPLETE EACH PART BELOW IN DETAIL FOR CORRECT AND RAPID COMPUTER PROCESSING.
- SHOULD MORE THAN ONE ROOM BE NEEDED, FORM MAY BE DUPLICATED OR SUPPLEMENTAL ROOM LIST MUST BE ATTACHED USING SAME FORMAT AS IN PART III.
- ALL CONFIRMATIONS WILL BE SENT TO INDIVIDUAL INDICATED IN PART I.

PART I

NAME OF PERSON REQUESTING ROOMS (Note: This person must be one of the individuals who will be occupying the room):

(FIRST NAME) (M.I.) (LAST)

(NAME OF CHURCH)

(STREET ADDRESS OR P.O. BOX NUMBER WHERE CONFIRMATION IS TO BE SENT)

(CITY) (STATE) (ZIP)

(AREA CODE) (PHONE NUMBER)

PART II

INSTRUCTIONS: Select six hotels/motels of your choice. No request will be processed without six choices.

FIRST CHOICE (HOTEL CODE) SECOND CHOICE (HOTEL CODE) THIRD CHOICE (HOTEL CODE)
FOURTH CHOICE (HOTEL CODE) FIFTH CHOICE (HOTEL CODE) SIXTH CHOICE (HOTEL CODE)

When making your selections, which is more important to you: ☐ PRICE or ☐ LOCATION?

PART III

- INSTRUCTIONS:
1. PRINT OR TYPE NAMES OF ALL PERSONS OCCUPYING EACH ROOM.
 2. SELECT TYPE ROOM DESIRED WITH ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE DATES.
 3. PRINT OR TYPE LAST NAME FIRST.

OCCUPANTS' NAMES (PRINT LAST NAME FIRST):	Check type of room desired:	Arrival Date: _____
1. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Single (1 bed/1 person)	Arrival Time: _____
2. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Double (1 bed/2 persons)	Departure Date: _____
3. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Double/Double (2 beds/2 persons)	Other: _____
4. _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Triple (2 beds/3 persons)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Quad (2 beds/4 persons)	

IMPORTANT: No phone orders will be accepted. Hotel locations are shown on accompanying map. Make a photocopy of this form for your files. SBC Housing Bureau processes reservations in order of date mailed. Confirmations will come directly from your hotel. DO NOT SEND DEPOSITS WITH RESERVATIONS. If rooms are not available at hotels of your choice, comparable reservations will be made at another cooperating hotel. If rate requested is not available, next available rate will be assigned. Changes or cancellations should be sent in writing to the SBC Housing Bureau.

ALL FORMS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 1, 1992 • MAIL FORMS NO LATER THAN MAY 7, 1993

Peru's former vice president wants to train evangelicals for politics

By Mary E. Speidel

LIMA, Peru (BP) — Carlos Garcia wants to use what he learned as Peru's second vice president to prepare other Peruvian evangelicals for future political service.

However, Garcia, a Peruvian Baptist, says he won't return to politics after his 20-month experience as one of the country's two elected vice presidents. "I'm totally out of politics now and am back in Christian ministry," Garcia told Baptist Press in a telephone interview from his home in Lima, Peru's capital.

Garcia, a former Baptist pastor in Peru and Colombia, will begin training for an evangelistic ministry to Peruvian executives he will start through Campus Crusade for Christ International. Also, Garcia and about a half dozen evangelical politicians in Peru are trying to organize an informal institute for

training Peruvian Christians interested in political service.

His brief political stint convinced him Peruvian evangelicals need more preparation for political service. "We (evangelicals) need more than enthusiasm (for politics). We need preparation, training and organization."

Garcia, also a lawyer, became interested in entering politics while working for eight years as a Peruvian national director of World Vision, a Christian relief organization.

He was elected Peru's second vice president in June 1990 on a ticket with presidential winner Alberto Fujimori, a Roman Catholic. About one-third of the congressional candidates on Fujimori's slate were evangelicals, who make up about 5% of Peru's population. Garcia's five-year

term was cut short after Fujimori dissolved Peru's constitution and disbanded Congress on April 5, 1992. Fujimori claimed that legislative and judicial corruption was hampering his efforts to revive Peru's economy and curb guerilla violence. The president's action drew international criticism and prompted the United States to cut aid to Peru.

Garcia formed a nonprofit organization to undergird the social services offered through the government to the country's poor. The organization is called the Center for Cooperation, Action, and Development, with a stateside counterpart called Cooperative Development for Latin America. It has helped provide food, clothes, medicine, Bibles, and other aid to Peruvians.

Speidel writes for FMB.



Mark Evans, evangelist from Little Rock, leads in prayer for missions participants at the Coed Youth Missions Conference.

220 spring breakers head to Gulfshore for missions conference

By Tim Nicholas

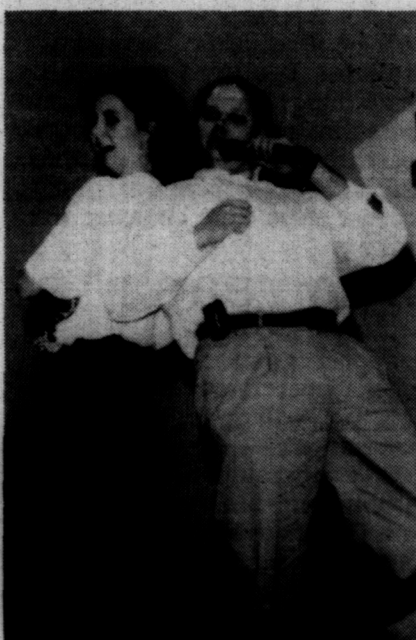
The annual Coed Youth Missions Conference at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian, attracted about 220 young people during their spring break.

Participants met with missionaries, heard gospel messages aimed to meet their needs, heard the group 4-Him and a Christian rap group, and a large number of them participated in local missions at the end of the sessions.

Mark Evans, preacher for the sessions, in talking about witnessing, said, "You need to talk to God about your friends, then talk to your friends about God."

Missionary to Peru, Karl Wallace, told participants that they were like the boy who gave his loaves and fishes for Jesus to feed the crowd. "You and I have what is needed at the precise moment to minister." Concerning any gift or talent, Wallace said "Place it in

His hands and watch the great and wonderful things He will do with your gift."



Michelle McCullars, 17, of Mt. Vernon Church, Columbus, mugs with Justin Fennell, who entertained the group with a concert featuring his humor.



Mark Kroner, 15, and Bradley White, 18, both of New Hope Church, Foxworth, role play concerning peer pressure in one of many practical classes for teens. Led by Kathy Shows of Greenville, the class talked about such topics as "How do you know when to compromise and when to stand for something?" The consensus answer was: You don't compromise "when you have to bend your morals." Kathy added advice: "Always have a quarter in your pocket, girls," — in case they need to call for a ride home.



At the Gaston Hewes Recreation Center in downtown Gulfport, up to 350 people are fed five days a week. Recently, volunteers from the youth group of New Hope Church, Foxworth, helped in serving lunch there. After the Coed Youth Missions Conference, other groups served at a rescue mission also on the coast.

Women's ordination tears at closely knit association

By Mark Wingfield

DANVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Debate over the role of women in the church is causing a painful rift among churches in Kentucky's small, closely knit South District Association.

Although the conflict may not be resolved until the association's annual meeting in October, apparently either a church that has ordained two women will be forced out of the association or at least seven other churches that oppose those ordinations will leave the association.

At issue is the ordination by Lexington Avenue Church in Danville of two women, one as a minister and another as a deacon.

"I have nothing against the people of that church," noted Tim Mathis, pastor of Danville's First Church, which is located within

close proximity to Lexington Avenue church. "Their ministers are friends of mine. ... We don't hate one another; we just disagree."

Opposing Lexington Avenue's ordination of women is "a painful operation," admitted Bill Hall, pastor of Gethsemane Church in Danville.

"It's not that we have anything against anyone," he said of himself and others who oppose the ordination of women. "We just have convictions. We believe there is an erosion of conviction, that there's a slippage of standards based on the Scripture. We feel to go along with it is tantamount to agreeing with it, and that's compromising ourselves."

While men are not superior to women, the Bible does assign men

and women different roles, Hall explained. "I don't think a woman is given the prerogative to be ordained into one of the two New Testament-sanctioned leadership roles in the church. I just don't think it's scriptural."

But the ordination of women is "in keeping with Scripture," countered Tim Noel, pastor at Lexington Avenue. Further, this matter of scriptural interpretation is a local church issue that should not be a "test of fellowship" in the association, he said.

Although the special committee is working to find a solution to the differences of opinion, no one seems optimistic that a split can be avoided.

Wingfield is news director, Kentucky WESTERN RECORDER.

Baptists in Broadcasting will host April banquet, workshops

Mississippi Baptists involved in radio, television, or cable broadcasting, and those interested in getting started in those areas are invited to join the Seventh Annual Mississippi Baptists in Broadcasting Workshop, April 23-24, at Calvary Church, Jackson.

The April 23 evening session will feature an awards banquet at 7 p.m. Van Payne, director of the Audio/Visual Department, Foreign Mission Board, will be the keynote speaker. Payne is responsible for all Foreign Missions Update video programs and Mission '93 on the VISN-ACTS Network. He has produced documentary films and

videos on subjects in 60-plus countries.

Awards to be presented at the banquet will be in the areas of: Best Program (one in each category for radio and television) Missions/ Evangelism, Church Musicals, Human Interest, Community Service, and Sports; Best Spot (one award for TV and one for radio); and Creative Use of Television or Radio (one award).

A special audio/video feature of the programs submitted by the awards winners will be presented by the MBIB Judging Committee.

Saturday, April 24 will feature workshops and equipment displays by vendors, 8 a.m.-3:15 p.m. A continental breakfast will be served by the church at 8 a.m.

Workshops will get underway at 9 a.m. Workshops from 9:15-11:30 a.m. will feature "Producing a Worship Service-Basic," led by Ron Harris, former minister of media at First Church, Dallas; Travis Ave., Fort Worth; and First Church, Wichita Falls, Pierce Texas.

An "Ideas and Solutions" workshop will be led by Wayne Pierce, minister of media, First, Hatties-

burg; and Mike Myrick, independent television producer.

Afternoon workshops will include: "Producing A Worship Service-Advanced," by Ron Harris; "Basic Audio in the Church," by David Edmonds, vice president and co-owner of Sound and Communications, Inc., Jackson; "Basic Radio in the Church," by Billy Lytal, head of the Communications Department and director of the Learning Resource Center, Mississippi College, Clinton.

Cost of registration for Friday and Saturday, which includes three meals and conference materials, is \$25. For churches bringing four or more persons for the two days, cost is \$20 per person. For those attending one day only, cost is \$15 per person.

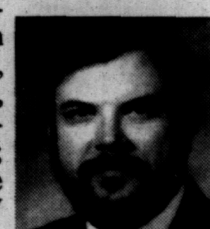
Advanced registration must be made by April 12. Mail registration fees and information to: Farrell Blankenship, MBIB, P.O. Box 530, Jackson MS 39205-0530. Make checks payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Planning Committee members for MBIB are Kurt Brautigam and Wayne Pierce, Hattiesburg; Steve Guidry, Pam Warren, and Judy Shelton, Jackson; and Mike Myrick, Laurel.

For more information write Blankenship at the above address or phone (601) 968-3800.



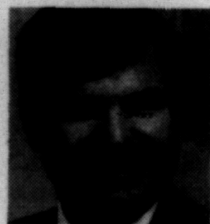
Myrick



Payne



Harris



Pierce



Edmonds



Lytal



Touching Lives

Doug Kellum, a single Southern Baptist missionary in the Philippines, gets acquainted with an Amerasian child at the Philippine Refugee Processing Center in Morong, Bataan, Philippines. Since 1982 he has worked with Vietnamese refugees at this Philippine government-run camp, funded by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. As director of Baptist Refugee Ministries, Kellum supervises a staff of Southern Baptist volunteers who teach marketable skills to refugees bound for the United States. He is from Tutwiler, Miss. (BP photo by Joanna Pineo)

Lad/Crusader Day set for April 17 at Central Hills

April 13 is the deadline for participants to register for the 1993 Lad/Crusader Day at Central Hills Baptist Retreat. The event, sponsored by the



Shearer

Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Brotherhood Department, is scheduled for April 17, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., featuring Kevin Shearer, Southern Baptist missionary to Peru. The cost is \$2.50 per person. Participants are responsible for their noon meal.

Groups wanting overnight camping space must make reservations with Central Hills by April 2. Interested groups may contact Dan West at Central Hills, P.O. Box 723, Kosciusko, MS 39090; phone (601) 289-9730. Cost is an additional \$1.

For additional information or to register for Lad/Crusader Day, write Crusader/Lad Day, Brotherhood Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530; phone (601) 968-3800. When registering, include name, address, and telephone number of both the church and leader. Make checks payable to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

RV campground accepting reservations for SBC

HOUSTON (BP) — Reservations are being accepted by the official campground for operators of recreational vehicles attending the June 15-17 Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Houston.

Reservation requests, noting intention to attend the SBC, should be directed to Pine Shadows RV Park, 8080 S. Main, Houston, TX 77025 or (713) 664-4371.

Cost is \$17 per rig, plus \$1 for each person over two in an RV, per night. Pine Shadows can handle RVs up to 40 feet in length.

The RV park offers restrooms, shower and laundry facilities, and phones, with restaurants, grocery stores, and drugstores nearby.

SBC shuttle bus service will be available from Pine Shadows to the downtown George R. Brown Convention Center.

SBC child care sign-up under way for Houston

HOUSTON (BP) — Registration for on-site child care for preschool children of out-of-town messengers to the 1993 Southern Baptist Convention, June 15-17 in Houston, is now being accepted.

Registration material is available by writing to SBC Preschool Child Care, Betty Herrington, 4300 W. Bellfort, Houston, TX

77035.

The material will include information about child care policies, hours of operation, fees, and registration forms.

Child care registration will be confirmed on a first-come, first-served basis. Parents are urged to write for registration materials immediately.

The Cooperative Program at Work:

CP funds help shed light while Children's Village shares Light

By Debbie Baird Buie

For two years Clara Stevens has been a child care worker at the Mississippi Baptist Children's Village. She is what some people call a "housemother," a parent figure who takes care of the day-to-day needs of children. Her children are nine teenage boys whose "real" homes are disrupted for any of a number of reasons.

"I am right where God wants me to be," says the Lawrence County native.

Those involved in the administration of this and the five other child care facilities are quick to note that without Cooperative Program (CP) funds, Baptist child care in our state would be difficult. CP is the basic support for this ministry.

It costs in excess of \$7,000 to care for one child in a year. It costs close to \$8,000 to operate the various facilities each day. The 14% of the Village budget from CP receipts takes care of the basic expenses of the facilities, such as utilities. While only 250 children may be cared for in the 21 cottages at any one time, about 500 children each year will find a home made possible by Baptist hearts.

There are relatively few Mississippi churches who know first hand the value of their CP gifts in

nurturing these children, who for a time in their lives, need the security and stability the Village can provide.

While the Village may never know the full extent its Christ-centered ministry has had on the lives of its residents, a few alumni have kept in touch.

Deanie Bolls Ferrell serves with her husband as a Southern Baptist foreign missionary to Ecuador. Perhaps as a child she was unaware of CP benefits in her life, but as a career missionary she is well aware of its blessings.

Jenny Sanders Nolen, of Hanceville, Ala., not only lived at the Village, but as an adult, returned there as a case worker. For 10 years she has had a diverse ministry performing Christian music, humorous monologues and leading seminars. When she lived at the Village she was very aware that the churches supported her home. As a member of Girls in Action she learned about CP and all the things it supported.

"I believe in the Cooperative Program. It allows us to do so many things," she says. "It's one thing that sets Southern Baptists apart from other denominations. Any success I have enjoyed is because there were churches who

cared."

Then there is Ronnie Foster of Soddy-Daisy, Tenn. For 10 years Ronnie was a resident of the Village, first at the old campus, then at Clinton when the old one closed.

Foster knows beyond a shadow of doubt that while he was with the Village, he, too, was right where God wanted him. It was there God made a difference in his life.

If you had asked him about the importance of the Cooperative Program back during his teen years, he wouldn't have known how to answer. But today, Foster is more aware of the vital role that CP plays in allowing Mississippi Baptists to minister to "one of the least of these." He says he never ceases to be grateful for the gifts that allowed him to come to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

As Mississippi Baptist churches allocate CP funds, they can be confident their gifts have played an important part in the lives of countless Mississippians. While most Mississippi churches don't have these precious children to minister to on a weekly basis, they are not missing out on the blessing when they contribute through the Cooperative Program.

Buie is a freelance writer living in Vicksburg.

Hunter: 8 ways to reach "secular people"

DETROIT (BP) — Christians must communicate the gospel simply, repeatedly, and in the cultural context for whom it is intended, a Methodist professor and author told Southern Baptist church-starting leaders recently.

"All churches that are reaching secular people in significant numbers are flexing to meet them culturally," said George Hunter III, dean of the Stanley Jones School of Evangelism at Asbury Theological Seminary, Kentucky.

"Churches employing traditional forms (of worship) almost never reach secular people in significant numbers," he said during a conference sponsored by the Home Mission Board's new church extension division.

Hunter, author of *How to Reach Secular People*, said the church has lost a lot of its cultural influence. Hunter contends the church must start from ground zero with people who are not "church broken."

Quoting Gallup polls, Hunter said the U.S. population with no religious training increased from 9% in 1968 to 25% in 1988.

He estimates 120 million Americans are secular people, "making North America or the U.S.A. the largest mission field in the Western Hemisphere."

Hunter said Christians should understand eight principles for communicating Christianity to secular people.

1. Almost all effective evangelization begins where people are

and not where we want them to be.

2. It involves the ministry of explanation.

3. The gospel must be communicated through the vernacular.

4. Christians must be willing to honestly discuss doubts and hangups of people with no spiritual background.

5. Cumulative effect. "No one gets the message the first time."

6. Creative redundancy. Because no one gets it the first time, Christians should learn to say the same things several ways.

7. Assimilation into the church fellowship often precedes commitment to Jesus Christ.

8. "The Christian faith is more caught than taught." Christians lose credibility with secular people for reasons related to how they live out their faith, he said.

Most secular people perceive Christians really don't believe what they say they believe. Secular people think Christians believe what they say, but they don't show it with their lives.

The laity are vital to reaching secular people, he said.

NOBTS highlights 75th anniversary with history

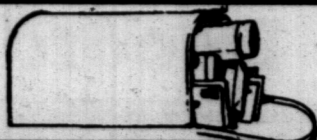
NEW ORLEANS (BP) — New Orleans Seminary has published an updated, pictorial history book commemorating its 75th anniversary.

Released for the first time during the recent March meeting of the seminary's board of trustees, *Seventy-Five Years of Providence and Prayer: An Illustrated History of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary*, was written by Claude L. Howe Jr., professor of church history at NOBTS for 33 years.

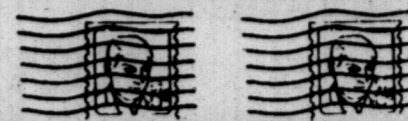
This updated history book is divided into chapters corresponding to the seven men who have served the institution as presi-

dents: Byron Hoover DeMent (1917-28), William Wistar Hamilton Sr. (1928-42), Duke Kimbrough McCall (1943-46), Roland Quinche Leavell (1946-58), Henry Leo Eddleman (1959-70), Grady Coulter Cothen (1970-74), and Landrum Pinson Leavell II (1975-present).

The new 224-page hardback volume was produced entirely by seminary staff, with an outside company printing the camera-ready material. The book features nearly 200 pictures, many never before published, with 13 full-color pages. It is available from the NOBTS office of public relations for \$19.95.



Letters to the editor



Nation straying

Editor:

I grieve over the death of (Florida abortion doctor) David Gunn, as much of the world. However, I'm disappointed in the fact that his death was all in the media. What about the possible thousands of lives that he has taken? That is never released from the media. Michael Griffin will go to prison, while Gunn never once had to pay for any of the lives that he took.

I think that it is time for us "so-called Christians," including Baptists, to stand up for what is right in the sight of the Lord. This nation is straying more and more away from God. This was shown in how Americans elected Bill Clinton as president.

Most people voted for Clinton because of the economy, including many "so-called Christians." In Isaiah 5:22, 23, it clearly states that it is wrong to depend on the wicked for a reward. In Deuteronomy 28 it states that if a country's people turn away from God, then so will God turn away from that country (economically, culturally, etc.).

People need to turn back to God so that God will turn back to them.
Charles L. Breland
Neely

Scholarships available

Editor:

Over 100,000 collegiate athletic scholarships are available each year to male and female high school and junior college student athletes. Contrary to popular belief, students don't have to be

all-state to qualify. Much of this money goes unused. A new publication with forms, sample letters, and tables of factual information is available for student athletes. It takes them step by step through the important process of getting an athletic scholarship and includes college and conference listings.

For information on how to get a collegiate athletic scholarship, send a #10 self-addressed, stamped envelope to the National Sports Foundation, 611A Willow Drive, P.O. Box 940, Oakhurst, NJ 07755.

Joe Tirrell
National Sports Foundation
Oakhurst, N.J.

Search suggestions

Editor:

I would like to make the following suggestions for search committees who deal with prospective ministers. As a minister with 19 years of experience, having dealt with a number of committees, I feel there are several things some committees overlook which are important to ministers. Please consider the following:

1. Always acknowledge all correspondence between yourself and any prospective minister, even if that correspondence is unsolicited. If a minister submits a resume or a tape to your committee, please take the time to acknowledge its receipt, even if you are not interested. Take the time to be courteous. This goes for DOMs as well!

2. Always strive for accuracy in describing your church situation to prospective minister. We love our churches and want others to think

as highly of them as we do. However, the work of the ministry can be retarded when a new minister discovers a church which is different from the one described by the search committee.

3. Always be straightforward in describing your expectations of a new minister. Most ministers know where their gifts and talents lie. This prevents churches and ministers from becoming unequally yoked.

4. Never deal seriously with a minister without asking the necessary, tough questions. Better to deal with these matters now than later when church harmony may be at stake. An ounce of prevention, etc....

Richard A. Bradley, pastor
Handsboro Church
Gulfport

Colorado seeks director

Editor:

The search committee for an executive director/treasurer of the Colorado Baptist General Convention would appreciate having the following announcement appear in your publication, the **Baptist Record**:

The Colorado Baptist General Convention is seeking a new executive director/treasurer. If you have any recommendations, please contact Tom Pratt, chairman, Search Committee for Executive Director, 241 S. 15th, Brighton, CO 80601.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Tom Pratt
Englewood, Colo.

Thanks for Causey

Editor:

Just yesterday (March 14) our church concluded a series of revival services in which Bill Causey, MBCB executive director-treasurer, led in preaching. Certainly you already know what a treasure and Spirit-led preacher

Causey is. During our revival God spoke to us very powerfully through Causey's biblically-based sermons and his Spirit-filled presence in and out of the pulpit.

Causey has endeared himself to our church not only through his preaching, but also through his fellowship. During the week he joined with us in savoring the wonder and beauty of Alaska and many of the activities that we enjoy. (He did especially well at cross-country skiing.)

Thank you for sharing Causey with us. We look forward to many more of you visiting with us and sharing with us in ministry through our conventions' partnership.

Ronnie Prevost, pastor
University Baptist Church
Fairbanks, Alaska

Pastors' predicament

Editor:

I have never seen this news in print, and I never would have expected it if it had not happened to me. The news is this:

A large group known as "former pastors and former church staff" cannot draw unemployment compensation as other people can.

The reason is this: Most churches never think that pastors or staff will ever be "unemployed" and do not pay unemployment taxes. And pastors do not take care of this because they are considered "self-employed" in the sight of the law and/or because their pay is so low that they can't spare the money for such coverage.

Many members who force their pastors or other staff to resign wipe their hands clean of the matter, thinking that "he can always draw unemployment like everybody else." That isn't true!

I went to the unemployment office to see what they could do to help. They looked up my name and Social Security number on the

computer. And the answer was: "Nothing," because the record showed that nothing had been paid in to provide for this coverage.

Of course, I can fill out an application for employment, and I have at many places. And they can do what they can to find work of some sort for me. But who will hire a man to be a store clerk or a factory laborer who has two graduate degrees and whose primary focus for the last 30 years has been on preaching and teaching the Word of God and on ministering to the needs of people? In many cases, I have to omit those facts. And there is no unemployment compensation!

Name withheld by editor

Information missing

Editor:

As I review articles of Southern Baptist publications, including the **Baptist Record**, I've noticed an alarming absence of a focus on Jesus. An example of this is the routine and obvious absence of the plan of salvation from the **Baptist Record**. I'm sure you agree that many of our church members are either unsure of their salvation or simply are lost. At best there would usually be someone lost inside a family that receives the **Baptist Record**. Our primary mission is to the lost. I feel that the Plan of Salvation should be published on the outside fold (so as to be seen even if unopened) and in a special typeface and layout that would attract attention. We have a very difficult task ahead of us. There are many very serious issues we must deal with both spiritually and politically. But we must never lose sight of our focus on Jesus.

Kirby Craft
Mendenhall

Stewardship Commission adopts budget reduction for '94

NASHVILLE (BP) — The SBC Stewardship Commission adopted a \$2,097,429 budget for 1993-94, a decrease of \$268,623 from the current budget, at its annual meeting in Nashville March 18-19. The reduced budget, 11% below 1992-93, follows several expense reductions announced earlier by the Stewardship Commission, including a reduction in staff of three people and salary cuts. Commissioners voted to delay the effective date of the layoffs until Dec. 31, 1993 instead of June 1.

Baylor regents' vote cancels nude art class

WACO, Texas (BP) — Bowing to a deluge of complaints from Texas Baptists, including a request from the state convention's executive board, Baylor University's board of regents voted unanimously March 19 to cancel a nude figure drawing class scheduled to be offered this fall.

Texas Baptist executive board chairman, Levi Price Jr., pastor of

First Church of El Paso, said complaints about the class had come from both sides of the denominational political controversy. Baylor receives almost \$4 million from the state convention Cooperative Program allocations, almost all directed to student aid, but threats were made by many Texas churches to end Cooperative Program support if the class were offered.

POSITION AVAILABLE:

President, Missouri Baptist Foundation

Qualifications: College degree, minimum of 7 years experience in professional business or denominational work; Christian; active member of Southern Baptist church; proven management, communication and relational skills.

Send to MBF: P.O. Box 6910, Jefferson City, MO 65102 for application form and further information.

michael w smith
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Revival Dates

Rena Lara (North Delta): April 4-9; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Bill Choate, Oak Grove, Frisco City, Ala., evangelist; Herman Furniss, Rena Lara, music; John Purvis, pastor.

Lucien, Brookhaven: April 4-7; Sunday, 11 a.m., followed by dinner on the ground; 7 p.m. nightly; Gary Bowlin, Brandon, evangelist; Ted C. Bowlin, pastor.

Puckett (Rankin): April 4-7; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jeff Gilder, First, Anguilla, evangelist; Brad and Tammy Jones, Meridian, music; Barry Ward, pastor.

Harrisville (Simpson): April 4-7; Sunday, 10 a.m.; 7 p.m. each night; Robert Dunn, Dublin, Prentiss, evangelist; Benny Still, Poplar Springs, Mendenhall, music; Dennis E. Allen, pastor.

First, Kosciusko: April 4-8; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Frank Gunn, Biloxi, evangelist; Edd Brashier, Louisville, music; Barry C. Corbett, pastor.

Deer Creek, Rolling Fork: April 8-11; Thurs.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10:45 a.m.; Albert Tuten, Fort Worth, Texas, evangelist; John and Lisa McDaniel, Memphis, Tenn., music; Michael E. King, pastor.

Bunker Hill, Columbia: April 4-7; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Phillip Duncan, North Columbia, evangelist; Gary Anglin, Texas, music; Jim Ray, pastor.

Byram, Jackson: April 4-7; youth revival; Sunday, 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Pat Porter, motivational speaker and youth consultant, West Monroe, La.,

evangelist; James D. Whittington, pastor.

Southern Hills (Hinds-Madison): April 4-8; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 7 p.m.; Bill Bailey, Round Island Church, Athens, Ala., evangelist; Curtis Alston, Southern Hills, music; Thomas Farris, pastor.

Eastside, Pearl: April 4-7; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon services with lunch served (no cost), and 7 p.m.; Bruce Gill, Hammond, La., evangelist; Gil Powell, Jackson, music; Dennis Dunn, pastor.

Pleasant Ridge, Dumas: April 4-7; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Bobby Williamson, Park Place, Brandon, evangelist; Shane Price, Ingram, Booneville, music; David Blackwell, pastor.

NOBTS will host Mid-South School

"Equipping the Sower" will be the theme of the Mid-South School of Evangelism and Church Growth to be held Oct. 14-16 at New Orleans Seminary.

The conference will offer a comprehensive view of church growth and is designed to equip ministers and laity in motivating their congregations to grow through evangelism, reclaiming inactive members, and beginning new growth units.

The registration fee (\$25 for Southern Baptists and \$60 for others) should be sent to the Office of Continuing Education, NOBTS, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126.

Scholarship vouchers are available to Baptist college and seminary faculty and students in the region. This event is sponsored by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Home Mission Board, and New Orleans Seminary, in cooperation with the Louisiana and Mississippi Baptist conventions. Contact (504) 282-4455, ext. 3260 for more information.

200 people, as well as offices, a workroom, kitchen, conference room, prayer room, and restrooms.

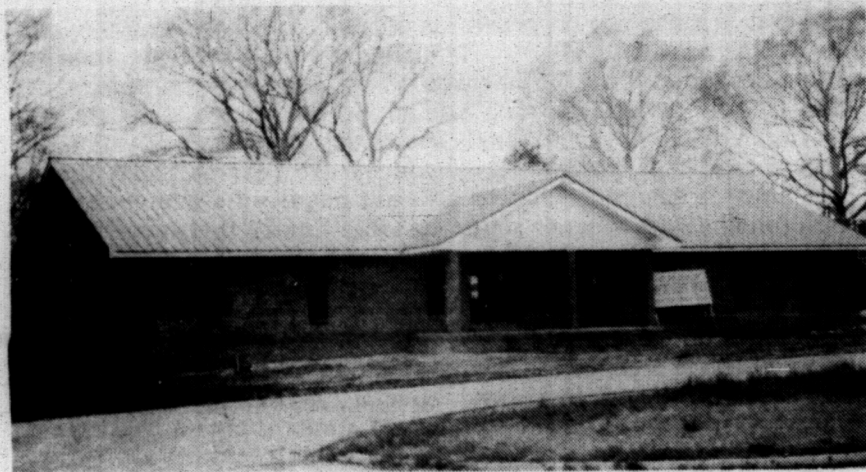
Michael Ball is director.

The Pearl River BSU is a ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist churches in Forrest, Hancock, Jefferson Davis, Lamar, Marion, and Pearl River counties.

BSU at Pearl River CC will dedicate new center

The Baptist Student Union at Pearl River Community College will have a dedication and open house on Sunday, April 4, from 2-4 p.m. at the new Baptist Student Center building (pictured above) located on Highway 11 just south of the college campus in Poplarville.

The new brick facility includes a meeting room which can hold over



Missionary News

Clifton and Cathy Curtis, missionaries to Burkina Faso, are in the States (address: 704 Ponderosa Dr., Starkville, Miss. 39759). He was born in Greenwood and she, the former Cathy Pratt, in Batesville. Both consider Winona their hometown.

Jeffery and Nell Ginn, missionaries to Colombia, have completed language study in Costa Rica and arrived on their field of service (address: Apartado Aereo 6613, Cali, Colombia). The former Nell Nichols, she was born in Memphis, Tenn., and considers Byhalia her hometown.

Thomas and Bonnie Hearon, missionaries to Brazil, are in the

States (address: 4201 Little Rd/Pleasant Ridge, Arlington, Texas 76016). He was born in New Orleans, La., and considers Jackson his hometown.

Milton and Pamela Kliesch, missionaries to Togo, have arrived in France for language study (address: 5 Allee du Bosquets, 37300 Joue-les-Tours, France). He was born in Magnolia.

James and Carolyn McAtee, missionaries to Southern Asia and the Pacific, are on the field and may be addressed at MacPherson Rd., P.O. 93, Singapore 9134. Both are natives of Jackson. She is the former Carolyn Mahaffey.

Just for the Record

The Duncan Sisters will be at Neely Church, Neely, on April 3 at 7 p.m. A love offering will be taken. Mike Campbell is pastor.

The adult choir of First Church, Pearl, will present the Easter musical "The Victor," on April 10 and 11 at 7 p.m. Call 939-4476 for free tickets. Jim Lott is minister of music. John T. Brock is pastor.

Mississippi Puppetry Guild and Mississippi Museum of Art will present Performing Arts Festival for Children and Puppetry Jam '93 April 1-2 at the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson. Call (601) 977-9840 for time and ticket information.

Christian pianist Dino takes center stage at the concert grand in Swor Auditorium at Mississippi College on Saturday, April 17, at 7 p.m. He will headline the sixth annual Naturally Spectacular, featuring MC's touring show troupe The Naturals. The winner of multiple awards for his religious and patriotic performances, Dino has performed more than 10,000 concerts worldwide, including Haiti, Ethiopia, Japan, Russia, and the People's Republic of China. Ticket sales and information are being handled through the offices of the Dean of Students at 925-3248 and The Naturals at 925-3856.

The Seminary Chorus of New Orleans Seminary Chorus, William Carey College Choral, and the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, will present the Easter portions of Handel's Messiah at 8 p.m. April 6 in St. Louis Cathedral, New Orleans. For more information, contact the Division of Church Music Ministries, New Orleans Seminary, 3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126-4858; or call (504) 282-4455, ext. 3226.

A Sacred Harp Sing will be held on April 20 in the Sellers Music Building on the campus of New Orleans Seminary. The annual fall event begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner on the ground. For more information, call (504) 282-4455, ext. 3226.

Revival Results

Harmony, Crystal Springs: March 7-10; Rickey Moore, Pass Christian, evangelist; Ronnie Cottingham, Agricola, music; 37 professions of faith, one by letter; Clark Stewart, pastor.

Oak Grove, Benton: March 21-24; Mickey Armstrong, evangelist; Dale Nowell, pastor; four professions of faith.

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EXPERIENCED CHURCH PEWS for sale. Light oak stain with red padded seat. Harmony Church, New Albany, (601) 534-5585.

THE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH in Columbus, Miss., is presently looking for a part time minister of music and youth. Any individual who is interested should mail a resume to: Community Baptist Church, Search Committee Chairman, 2490 Yorkville Road East, Columbus, MS 39702 or they may call 327-5306 or 328-2105.

WANTED: 15-passenger van for church use. Call Chuck King (601) 372-1485.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH, Grenada, is seeking a full-time music and youth staff person. Resumes should be sent to, Friendship Baptist Church,

Search Committee, 476 Pearledge Road, Grenada, MS 38901, phone (601) 226-4658. Pastor is Rev. Guy Hughes.

NEEDED: COMMERCIAL trailer for Sunday School rooms, also metal folding chairs. (601) 455-6337.

THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of Charleston, Miss., is seeking a full-time minister of music and youth. This position offers a full benefit package including housing and utility allowance. Please send resumes to: F.B.C. Charleston, P.O. Box 179, Charleston, MS 38921.

POSITION VACANCY: Minister of Music and Youth, Full time; Center Ridge Baptist Church, Yazoo City, MS. Contact Martha Jackson, (601) 965-4545 or (601) 746-3803 for further information.

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Mississippi College will host Arts in April program

The Mississippi College campus will become the arts center of Mississippi during the month of April as the second annual Arts in April program unfolds with activities for persons of all ages.

Sponsored jointly by the College and the Clinton Chamber of Commerce, there will be art exhibits, musical programs, drama productions, opera, concerts, family activities, lectures, Civil War reenactments, and many other events through the month.

The exhibit scheduled for the

Latimer House will hang from April 4-30. Exhibit hours will be every Tuesday from 10-11:30 a.m.; April 24, 6-7 p.m.; April 25, 2-4 p.m.; and April 30, 6-7:30 p.m. The Ecclesiastical Art Show planned for the Jennings Hall patio area will be open each weekday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. An opening reception for both exhibits is scheduled on April 4 from 2-4 p.m. at the respective locations.

For additional information call the office of public relations at (601) 925-3255.

Staff Changes

North McComb Church, McComb, has called **Ron F. Plymel** as pastor. A native of Eufaula, Ala., he received his education at New Orleans Seminary. His previous place of service was Brooksville Church, Brooksville.

Bill Crider, minister of education at **First Church, Hattiesburg**, has accepted a position as minister of education at First Church, Minden, La. A gratitude fellowship was held in his honor at the church on his last Sunday, March 28.

Raymond Ball has been called by **Fairview Church, Selma, Ala.**, as minister of music and youth effective April 4. A native of Waynesboro, he received his education at Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary. His previous place of service was Harrisville Church in Simpson Association.



Ball

Prayer requested for April summit of gang leaders

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (ABP) — The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America is calling on Baptists and other Christians to organize a special service of prayer April 28 on the eve of a summit of urban gang leaders.

An estimated 100 African-American and Latino gang leaders from 30 cities are being invited to the summit, which will be held April 29-May 2 at St. Stephen Church in Kansas City, Mo.

The summit comes on the first anniversary of the 1992 outbreak

of urban violence in Los Angeles. Organizers hope the meeting will help establish lasting peace in communities torn by gang violence and redirect the leadership of warring gang members into non-violent and creative problem solving.

The summit was initiated by the Council for Urban Peace and Justice, a one-year-old organization formed in the wake of the Los Angeles riots. The council is based in Granville, Ohio, where it operates out of donated offices at First Church, Granville.

Thursday, April 1, 1993

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 9

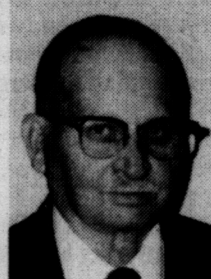
Names in the News

Neil McMillen, professor of history at the University of Southern Mississippi, will be the 1993 **Edward N. Akin** Lecturer in Arts and Sciences at Mississippi College. His topic will be "Down, Out, and Old in the Great Depression: New Meaning in Black Memories of Slavery," on April 6, at 7 p.m. in the Hall of Fame Room of the B.C. Rogers Student Center.

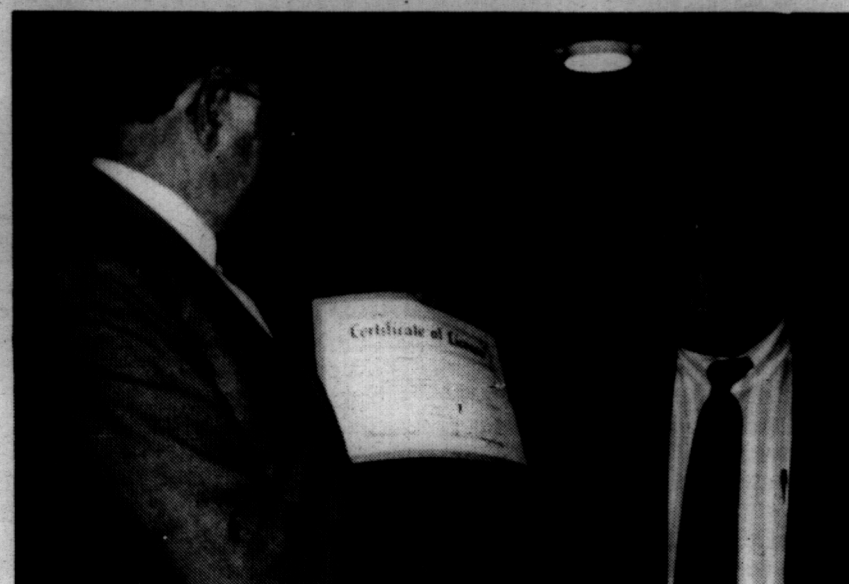


McMillen

Ellison Ridge Church, Winston County, recently honored its pastor, **J.W. Williams**, with a reception on his retirement. He has served for 38 years in the pastorate and served seven years at Ellison Ridge Church. Williams received a certificate of appreciation for his work in the association from Paul Blanchard, director of missions for Winston Association. Williams, available for supply, interim, and revivals, can be contacted at Rt. 7, Box 159A, Louisville, MS 39339, or call 773-4382.



Williams



Ruth Church in Lincoln County recently licensed **Dwayne Dunaway** to the gospel ministry. He is available for supply, interim, or pastor, and can be contacted at Rt. 1, Box 247, Summit, MS, 39666. Pictured with Dunaway, right, is **John O. Hemphill**, pastor.



Officers of the Mississippi Singing Churchmen are pictured, left to right, front row, **Jim Keyser**, publicity; **Tom Mercier**, secretary; **James Francis**, president; **Leon Bedsole**, south director; **J.M. Wood**, central director; second row, **Perry Robinson**, handbell director; **Tanner Riley**, missions coordinator; **Randy Cuchens**, president elect; and **Darryl Prater**, instrumental director. Not pictured is **Mickey Gentry**, north director.



Bill Hudson was ordained to the gospel ministry on Feb. 21 by **Griffith Memorial Church, Jackson**. Hudson is pastor of **Gooden Lake Church in Belzoni**. Pictured are Hudson, center, his wife, **Robbie**, and **Bruce Cappleman**, pastor of Griffith Memorial Church. The Hudsons have two children, **Christopher** and **Tiffany**.

Benny Still uses pamphlet tool

Benny Still, pastor of **Poplar Springs Church, Mendenhall**, has written the story of Easter in the form of a pamphlet, illustrated with the "B. Still" cartoons. The pastor hands out the pamphlet to merchants, truckers, and flea market-goers. For information on the pamphlet, call Still at (601) 847-2555 or write Rt. 1, Box 164, Mendenhall, MS 39114.

Oakhurst Baptist Church

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Dr. Tommy Tutor, pastor,

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9:45 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. worship, **Dr. Bill Causey**

Executive Director, MBCB

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Uniform Following Jesus' example



By Chuck Pourciau
John 13:1-16

On Jan. 1, 1863 Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation which sounded the beginning of the end of slavery in the United States. Or did it? In John 13 Jesus performed the duties of a slave and urged his disciples and us to do likewise. Human slavery may be history, but the servanthood modeled by Jesus must be a vital part of the life of every Christian today and in the future. What does this passage teach us about being a slave to our fellow man?

Difficult circumstances did not prevent service (vv. 1-3). Two facts underscore the tremendous selfless love displayed by Jesus in this account. First, Jesus was aware that the time of his passion had arrived (v. 1). He realized that the time for his tremendous physical and spiritual suffering was upon him. Second, he realized that one pair of feet to be washed belonged to a man who would soon betray him (v. 11). Yet even in the midst of his most trying time Jesus continued to love and serve others.

We often turn our focus inward when confronted with trying times. We become selfish and want the church to shower love and attention on us. Jesus showed us here that difficult circumstances do not exempt us from serving our fellow man. In fact, the witness of a Christian is much more effective when it is administered during a time of personal crisis.

Jesus humbly performed the most menial of tasks (vv. 4-5). The washing of feet was a menial task reserved for the lowliest of servants. In fact, a Jewish slave could not be forced to wash feet. Yet Jesus, the Lord of all, chose to wash his disciples' feet!

How often does a Christian refuse a task because he considers it too menial? How often do we wait to see if someone else will perform the menial task before we commit to it? After all, we are prominent church leaders. We cannot be expected to perform such lowly tasks. As William Barclay wrote, "The world is full of people who are standing on their dignity when they ought to be kneeling at the feet of their brethren." It is human nature to desire that others look up to us. A Christian is a servant. No task should be too menial and no person below our service. The more one matures in Christ, the more humbly he serves.

Peter attempted to prevent the washing of his feet (vv. 6-11). Peter misunderstood this act of the Lord. He was not about to allow his Master to become his slave. But Jesus was teaching him a lesson. When he told him that this washing was necessary, Peter eagerly accepted it.

This part of the account teaches us two important truths. First, not all attempts at service will be well received. Some refuse Christian service because of pride. But we are not responsible for how one responds to our service. We are only responsible for serving.

Second, we all must learn an important lesson in servanthood. If we refuse to be servants, we can have no part of Jesus.

Jesus set an example for us to follow (vv. 12-16). Jesus then took advantage of this very profound object lesson. In essence what he said was, "You are shocked at this act of servanthood because you know me to be Teacher and Lord. You are correct in referring to me as Teacher and Lord, and I've just shown you the path to true greatness." This is even more significant in light of what Luke recorded as a part of his last supper account. There was an argument among the disciples as to which of them was the greatest. In the eyes of the Lord, the way to greatness is along the road of humility. This is contrary to the philosophy of the world that says that we should do whatever it takes to make it to the top, even if that means stepping on others to do it.

So often we come to church seeking to have our needs met and complain when we do not think they have been. We claim we didn't get anything out of that service, song, sermon, etc. The reason we didn't get anything out is because we didn't put anything in. Our motives were selfish. If we enter church and society preoccupied with service rather than selfishness, our needs and the needs of those around us will be met and we will be great in the eyes of the Lord.

Pourciau is pastor, First Church, Louisville.

Bible Book Isaiah's call and message



By Guy A. Hughes
Isaiah 1, 6

Sadly, the quest for a better materialistic life often quenches our desire for a closer walk with God and deeper love in human relationships. The world has always been too busy to care. Isaiah lived in such a time and one day, in a moment of worship, God called him to go to a people dead in their sin.

A call to repent (1:16-20). Prior to the ministry of Isaiah, Israel and Judah enjoyed 40 years of peace and prosperity. Jeroboam II ruled Israel and Uzziah ruled Judah. The Divided Kingdom enjoyed good times until Tiglath-pileser III became king of Assyria and began to expand his kingdom. During the affluent reign of King Uzziah, the nation of Judah began to turn away from God and indulge in idolatry (1:2-4). Injustice, greed, violence, and false worship were commonplace throughout the land (1:5-15). Therefore, God warned Judah to turn from their sin or judgment was certain.

The entire nation had become filthy and cleansing was needed. This washing would require every individual to repent of their sin and turn to God for purification. The phrase "learn to do well" (v. 17) meant, once cleansed, the people must not only put away those activities which made them "dirty," also, they were to replace their evil acts with good deeds. Their lust for the things of the world must be replaced with a desire to assist the widow and the orphan.

"Come now let us reason together," says the Lord (v. 18). God desires to communicate with our stubborn hearts. His spirit desires to have a conference with us. We have a problem; our sins are like scarlet. My wife and I are considering a ban on red drinks in our house. A spill of any red liquid on our carpet means a permanent stain. No amount of trusty "Resolve" can take it out. Bible commentators say the scarlet portrays sin, not only to denote its dreadful character, but also to emphasize its indelible nature. They tell us that you can immerse a cloth in any other color and the stain can be removed. Once red dye has been thoroughly set in a piece of goods, however, no scientific method is known that can successfully eliminate it without damaging the fabric. Even if the material is rubbed and scrubbed until threadbare, the fibers that are left will still retain their crimson hue. Sin is thus pictured as being indelible as far as human efforts to remove it are concerned. There is nothing man himself can do to change his evil nature and turn it into the white purity of holiness. We have a problem. Our sins are like scarlet.

However, God has a solution. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow." God alone has the power to cleanse the terrible stain of sin.

Isaiah's call and commission (6:1-9, 11). Four points stand out in this remarkable vision. First, Isaiah's confession of sin reveals our need to be forgiven and cleansed before we can properly proclaim God's Word. Second, God, due to His infinite mercy, pardons us, cleanses us, and then uses us to help redeem fallen man. Third, Isaiah's call and commission came during a moment of worship. Fourth, Isaiah was not to cease from his ministry until all the Lord required had come to pass.

An elderly Christian widow lived alone. Partly crippled, she had to rely primarily on the goodwill and help of her neighbors. She spent some of her weary hours keeping a diary, although no one knew why; for she had precious little to record. Finally the Lord called her to himself to enjoy the blessings of his better land. It is reported that she lay dead for several days before anyone missed her! In looking through her belongings, someone discovered her diary. Most of the book contained nothing of interest. In fact, near the end of her life, as one monotonous day followed another, she wrote only three pathetic words of page after page: No one came! NO ONE CAME!

Somewhere, near you, lies someone dead and tainted by their scarlet sin. May it never be written, in the diary of heaven, "No One Came." The heart cry of every Christian should be, "Here I am. Send me!"

Hughes is pastor, Friendship Church, Grenada.

Life and Work When death approaches



By Laura Russell
Genesis 49:33-50:1, 12-14, 22-26

When Jacob died at the age of 147, Joseph wept and mourned for months. When someone close to us dies, we need a long time to work through our grief. Crying and sharing our feelings with others help us recover and go on with life. It is important to give ourselves time enough to grieve over the loss of a loved one.

Joseph mourns Jacob's death (49:33-50:1). Jacob's very last act on earth was an act of faith. When the charge was finished, he drew up his feet into his bed. Apparently, he had summoned up his last strength, and had sat up in bed to bless his sons. Immediately thereafter he died. All the sons grieved greatly over the loss of their father; but Joseph's grief is especially mentioned, because he was closer to his father than any of the others. Consequently, his pain was greater. He "wept over him." Natural grief usually finds an outlet in tears. Profound grief, as Joseph showed, is a normal and appropriate response to the death of a loved one.

Joseph and his brothers bury Jacob (50:12-13). To Jacob the cave of Machpelah was holy ground. Abraham was buried there, as well as Sarah, Isaac, Rebekah, and Leah. When Jacob expressed his wish to be carried there, he knew that Joseph would fulfill it. Joseph set about to do what he had promised his father he would do. Jacob was embalmed, and a lengthy mourning period followed. The Egyptians joined in the mourning because of the prominence Jacob had as the father of Joseph. At the cave of Machpelah, Jacob's sons buried him. He had come to the end of his eventful career.

Joseph returns to Egypt (50:14). Joseph, with his brothers, return to Egypt to take up life again. God expects us to grieve properly. However, we must move beyond the grief and resume normal activities and responsibilities. We can acknowledge God's sovereign authority over everything in our lives.

Joseph lives to an advanced age (50:22-23). Joseph lived in Egypt all his days. During this time, Joseph enjoyed the blessing of seeing three generations come after him. For 80 years Joseph served God, his people, and the Egyptians; and he saved many people from suffering and death by starvation. He helped change the course of history of nations by the movement of the Hebrew clan to Egypt. We show steadfast faith in facing death by making the most of the time God allows us when we are alive.

Joseph meets his own death (50:24-26). We note in the example of Joseph the marks of a good man's death. There is no distress or fear, instead, there is simplicity of acceptance. The death of Joseph also suggests hope. He invested his strength in causes that reached far beyond himself, so he had the confidence that God would lead his children and children's children to do great things.

Joseph was ready to die. He had no doubts that God would keep his promise and one day bring the Israelites back to their homeland. What a tremendous example! The secret of that kind of faith is a lifetime of trusting God. That kind of faith gains strength over time. After a lifetime of exercising trust, your faith can be as strong as Joseph's. Then at your death, you can be confident that God will fulfill all his promises to you and to all those faithful to him who may live after you.

*May all who come behind us find us faithful,
May the fire of our devotion light their way.
May the footprints that we leave lead them to believe
And the lives we live inspire them to obey.
Oh, may all who come behind us find us faithful.*

—Jon Mohr

Russell is a member of First Church, Brandon.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



The Baptist Children's Village

Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

Jan. 1, 1993 -
Jan. 31, 1993

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Mr. & Mrs. Alton L. Fields
Mrs. Beatrice Cole
Mr. & Mrs. D.S. Bowering
(to be continued)

For our friend, Cleve Dawsey...



Recently we were notified that Cleve Dawsey was gone, and we were and are saddened, because he was our friend. We grieve with and for Mrs. Dawsey and those who knew him best and loved him most, but our grief is tempered by gratitude, because he was our friend.

The honored heritage of our Baptist child care agency is firmly grounded in largely un-noted contributions by a myriad of unsung heroes of faith who are special friends of this child care ministry. Cleve Dawsey was one of those special friends, and although we mourn his passing, we acknowledge gratitude for that part of our friend's life which was so generously invested in the welfare and the future of Village boys and girls. That part of his life is neither dead nor gone. Virtually every corner of every building at our central facility, The India Nunnery Campus, represents physical evidence that Cleve Dawsey's life, as a matter of fact, is alive and well, because he and those he led and influenced, have, for many years, maintained, improved, decorated and re-decorated the buildings which are so vital to the existence of our mission.

"Some folks say they can't go to Ohio or Honduras. But The Baptist Children's Village is a missions project anybody can do. Right here in Jackson!"

So stated Cleve Dawsey in a 1986 interview with Anne McWilliams; an interview which was prompted by wide-spread attention which had then been drawn to the somewhat astounding record he had made, and continued then to make, in maintaining Village facilities at no cost to the agency. Many years earlier, in cooperation with the late Karl McGraw, then Director of Properties at The Village, Cleve brought three Pearl River County men with him to The India Nunnery Campus near Jackson to paint, do carpenter and other repair work. They stopped in a Village cottage, ate Village food, fellowshipped with the children and worked for an entire week.

Thus commenced an annual custom which became a habit for a Dawsey-led force which grew to 100 people, including men, women and young people, from churches in Pearl River Association.

Year after year, amid the warmest days of July and August, this substantial force of men painted, replaced floors, ceilings and roofs, repaired appliances, while the women cooked, painted beds and kitchen cabinets, and supervised youth assistants. Through these years, Cleve and Hazel Dawsey remained on-campus, week after week, with crews which rotated, promoting, encouraging and working at any job which presented itself.

Encouraged by Dawsey, the entire Association, including mission offices, became involved in promoting this unique annual mission trip to The Village and in accumulating special offerings to finance repair supplies and materials. Cleve became a combined missionary and public relations agent for The Children's Village in Pearl River County despite severe and sometimes crippling health problems. More importantly, his example, and that of those he influenced and persuaded, led to the institution of The Village's "SPECIAL PROJECTS" campaign and the enlistment of church-related volunteers from many areas of the state who now assist in maintaining properties at every Village installation.

We are reminded of his living legacy by a visit to any Village cottage because his finger-prints quite literally appear in every building; attesting to the unusual and unselfish investment of time, talent, energy and influence by Cleve Dawsey in maintaining the homes of "Mississippi's Largest Family." Without his effort, and that of the many who followed his leadership, the task would have extended beyond our capabilities. We will miss our friend, but we are grateful that his personal investment in our ministry is alive at every Village facility.

EASTER 1993

*I wish there were some wonderful place called
the Land of Beginning Again.
Where all of our heartaches, and all of our teardrops,
and all of our poor foolish grief could be put off like a shabby
old coat at the door, And never put on again.
Louisa Tarkington*

*Everyone of us, at one time or another, has felt the same feelings
that the poet expressed in the lyrics above. We have all yearned
for an opportunity to
start over again!*



*The message of Easter is that there is a place for
New Beginnings! In Christ all things are made new.
The beauty of Spring is found in the promise of
newness of life.*

*Today begins promotion of our 1993 Dress A
Child at Easter campaign. With your support at
this time you can help us to provide far more than
just new clothes — You can give the children the
assurance of an opportunity to find newness of life.*

Ronny Robinson
Executive Director

Help!

There is an immediate need for mature, Christian couples and ladies, age 30 to 60 years, to serve as child care workers on our residential care staff. Applicants must be in good physical and emotional health, prepared to accept 24-hour per day residential assignment with children.

- * No previous experience required — we will train
- * Adequate cash salary; room and board furnished
- * Excellent insurance and retirement program
- * Interesting opportunity for Vocational Christian service



For further details contact:
Henry M. Glaze
922-2242

The Baptist Children's Village
P.O. Box 27
Clinton, Mississippi 39060-0027
EOE

CHILDREN'S PAGE



Pen Pal Club

Dear Pen Pal Club,

My name is Randi Cain. I'm a member of Westside Baptist Church in Bruce, Miss. My hobbies are reading, horseback riding, and writing. I'm 11 years old. If you would like a pen pal please write to me at this address: Randi M. Cain, P.O. Box 65, Bruce, MS 38915.

Love in Christ,
Randi Mashea Cain

Dear Pen Pal Club,

My name is Christopher Robinson. I am 11 years old. My hobbies are baseball card collecting, swimming, and 4-H. I am a home-schooler and would like to be pen pals with a boy about my own age. I go to Peach Creek Baptist Church.

Sincerely,
Chris Robinson
HCR 64, Box 1
Pleasant Grove, MS 38657

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi. My name is Kristi Thornton. I am 13 years old. I enjoy riding bikes, talking on the telephone, and writing letters. I attend County Line Baptist Church in Crystal Springs, Miss. I would like someone my age to be pen pals with. I would like to be in the Pen Pal Club, also. If you can write me, my address is:

Kristi Thornton
1016 Jack Johnson Rd.
Crystal Springs, MS 39059

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi! My name is Jennifer Grubbs. I am in the 5th grade. My birthday is July 9. I go to North Pontotoc School. I am a Christian and I go to Friendship Baptist Church. My hobbies are: swimming, playing Nintendo, watching TV, collecting unicorns, and jumping on the trampoline. If you would like to be my pen pal, here is my address:

Jennifer Grubbs
Rt. 1, Box 391
Ecrú, MS 38841

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hey! My name is John McCormick. I'm 17 years old. I enjoy

listening to music. I go to French Camp Academy. I'm in the 8th grade. If you want more information, and you are a girl or boy, please write me:

John McCormick
FCA
French Camp, MS 39745

My name is Justin Bullock. My telephone number is 837-4558. I like to play basketball and baseball. I am 12 years old and go to Pine Grove School and my best friends are Mike C. and Will Cooper. I go to church at Pine Grove Baptist Church. My address is Rt. 2, Box CR 617, Dumas, MS 38625.

Justin Bullock

Hi! My name is Lucy Katherine Johnston. I am 7 years old. I am in the second grade at Benton Academy this year. I live in Yazoo City, Miss. I go to Center Ridge Baptist Church where I am a member. I am involved in GAS and some other activities there. I would like to have a pen pal.

Love,
Lucy Katherine Johnston
Route 2 Box 70-A
Yazoo City, MS 39194

Dear Pen Pal Club,

My name is Kristi Martin. I'm 10 and in the 4th grade. My hobbies are reading, talking on the phone, and collecting greeting cards. I would like a pen pal. If you want to be my pen pal please write me at

Kristi Martin
106 Briarhill Rd. D-3
Florence, MS 39073

Dear Pen Pal Club,

Hi! My name is Alyssa Dees. I am 12 years old. My birthday is Nov. 2, 1980. My hobbies are playing the piano, playing tennis, reading, riding bicycles with my friends, and drawing. I go to First Baptist Church in Winona. If you have similar interests, or you just want to write me and are between the ages of 11-14, write to me at:

Alyssa Dees
213 Lamar St.



Lions usually walk about five miles a day, but may walk as many as 15 miles in search of food.

TERSE VERSE

Can you think of a pair of rhyming words that go with each of the following definitions???

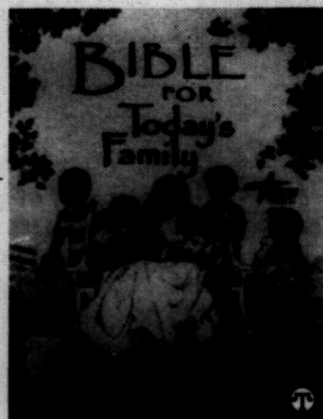
1. Jewelry belonging to a monarch. King's rings
2. Beds belonging to Abraham's nephew. _____
3. Flowers for the leader of Israel's people. _____
4. A shaved and bathed fisherman-disciple. _____
5. Large, hugging serpents on the ark. _____
6. Arms of the first woman's dress. _____
7. Horse barns belonging to one of the world's first brothers. _____
8. The world's first murderer has headaches. _____
9. Clothing belonging to a very patient man. _____
10. Believable stories told by Naomi's daughter-in-law. _____
11. A quiet, peaceful verse of praise. _____
12. An Italian's way of expressing his love for a prophet. _____
13. A minor prophet who was just fine! _____
14. How-to-do-it books belonging to a Hebrew captive. _____
15. The bottoms of a prophet's feet. _____
16. A herdsman-prophet turned celebrity. _____

Terse Verse answers:

1. King's rings, 2. Lot's cots, 3. Moses' roses, 4. neater Peter, 5. Noah's boas, 6. Eve's sleeves, 7. Abel's stables, 8. Cain's pains, 9. Job's robes, 10. Ruth's truths, 11. calm psalm, 12. I lika' Micah!, 13. O.K. Hosea, 14. Daniel's manuals 15. Joel's soles, 16. famous Amos

Source: *The Big Book of Bible Games and Puzzles* (Zondervan Publishing House, 1992)
Available at your local Christian bookstore or by calling 1-800-727-3480.

ABS designs Testament for children under age 9



A new edition of the New Testament, written especially for children, makes it wonderfully easy to share the joy of God's love with little ones.

It is an engaging new illustrated version of the American Bible Society's (ABS) highly successful Contemporary English Version (CEV) New Testament, *The Bible for Today's Family*. Specially prepared for children ages five through nine, the new edition makes the Bible come alive for children as never

before. It features large type, clear language, and has over 200 black and white illustrations, including 26 full-page drawings, designed to compliment the Scripture text.

"These illustrations engage the children with the text," said Charles Houser, ABS Scripture resources manager. "They focus on key elements of Jesus' ministry, the early life of the church, passages where children are mentioned, and where there are Old Testament figures mentioned."

Youngsters are not the only ones finding the translation easy to read and understand, Houser noted. Using editions prepared for adults, churches, Sunday School teachers, parents, pastors, and new Bible readers have all found the CEV a valuable part of their ministries and spiritual lives.

For free brochures, write The American Bible Society, Children's CEV, News Bureau, 1865 Broadway, New York, NY 10023.



Over 85 percent of Americans who are members of a religious congregation visited for the first time because a friend or relative invited them.

Baptist Record

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April 1, 1993